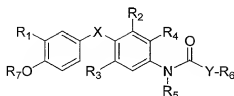


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula



wherein

X is oxygen (-O-), sulfur (-S-), carbonyl (-CO-), methylene (-CH₂-), or -NH-;

- Y is -(CH₂)_n- where n is an integer from 1 to 5, or -C=C-, which is cis or trans;

R₁ is halogen, trifluoromethyl, or alkyl of 1 to 6 carbons or cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbons;

- R₂ and R₃ are the same or different and are hydrogen, halogen, alkyl of 1 to 4 carbons or cycloalkyl of 3 to 6 carbons, at least one of R₂ and R₃ being other than hydrogen;

R₄ is hydrogen or lower alkyl;

R₅ is hydrogen or lower alkyl;

- R₆ is carboxylic acid, or ester thereof, or a prodrug thereof;

R₇ is hydrogen, or an alkanoyl or aroyl group, or other group capable of bioconversion to generate the free phenol structure (wherein R₇ = H);

- including all stereoisomers thereof, a prodrug thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein X is oxygen.

3. The compound as defined in Claim 2 wherein R₅ is hydrogen.

4. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein R₁ is isopropyl.

5. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein R_2 and R_3 are each independently halogen.

5 6. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein R_2 and R_3 are each independently an alkyl group.

7. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein one of R_2 and R_3 is halogen and the other is an alkyl group.

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8. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein one of R_2 and R_3 is halogen and the other is hydrogen.

9. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein one of R_2 and R_3 is alkyl and the other is hydrogen.

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10. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein R_2 and R_3 are independently Cl, Br, methyl or ethyl.

20 11. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein R_4 is hydrogen.

12. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein R_4 is methyl.

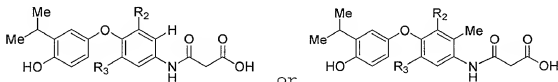
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13. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein Y is $-(CH_2)_n-$ where n is 1 or 2.

14. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein Y is cis- or trans-ethylene.

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15. The compound as defined in Claim 3 having the structure



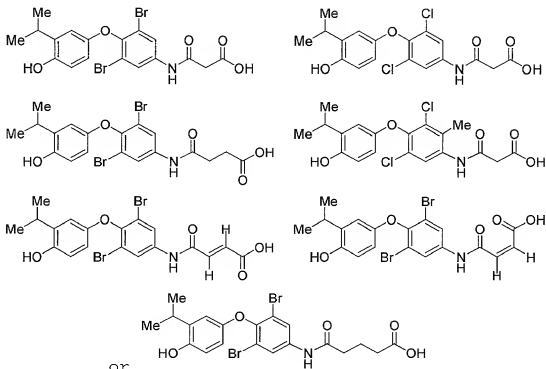
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or

or an alkyl ester thereof.

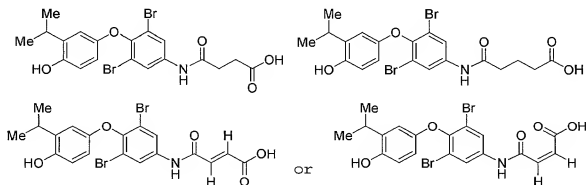
16. The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure

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or an alkyl ester thereof.

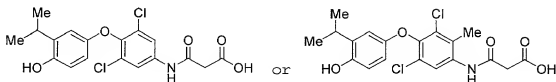
10 17. The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure



or an alkyl ester thereof.

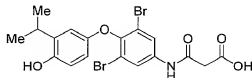
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18. The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure



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19. The compound as defined in Claim 1 which is



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20. A method for preventing, inhibiting or treating a disease associated with metabolism dysfunction, or which is dependent on the expression of a T_3 regulated gene, which comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 1.

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21. The method as defined in Claim 20 wherein the disease associated with metabolism dysfunction or which is dependent on the expression of a T_3 regulated gene is obesity, hypercholesterolemia, atherosclerosis, depression, osteoporosis, hypothyroidism, goiter, thyroid cancer, glaucoma, cardiac arrhythmia, congestive heart failure, or a skin disorder or disease.

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22. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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23. The method according to Claim 21 in which the skin disorder or disease is dermal atrophy, post surgical bruising caused by laser resurfacing, keloids, stria, cellulite, roughened skin, actinic skin damage, lichen

planus, ichthyosis, acne, psoriasis, Dernier's disease, eczema, atopic dermatitis, chloracne, pityriasis and skin scarring.

5 24. A method to treat skin disorder or disease by the use of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with a retinoid or a vitamin D analog.

10 25. A pharmaceutical combination comprising a compound as defined in Claim 1 and a hypolipidemic agent, an antidiabetic agent, an antidepressant, a bone resorption inhibitor, an appetite suppressant and/or an anti-obesity agent.

15 26. The combination as defined in Claim 25 wherein the hypolipidemic agent is a thiazolidinedione, an MTP inhibitor, a squalene synthetase inhibitor, an HMG CoA reductase inhibitor, a fibric acid derivative, an ACAT inhibitor, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, an ileal Na⁺/bile cotransporter inhibitor, a bile acid sequestrant and/or nicotinic acid or a derivative thereof.

20 27. The combination as defined in Claim 25 wherein the hypolipidemic agent is pravastatin, simvastatin, lovastatin, atorvastatin, fluvastatin or cerivastatin.

30 28. The combination as defined in Claim 25 wherein the compound is present in a weight ratio to the hypolipidemic agent or antidiabetic agent within the range from about 0.01:1 to about 300:1.

35 29. The combination as defined in Claim 25, wherein the antidiabetic agent is a biguanide, a sulfonylurea, a glucosidase inhibitor, a thiazolidinedione, an insulin sensitizer, a glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) or insulin.

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30. The combination as defined in Claim 29 wherein
the antidiabetic agent is metformin, glyburide,
glimepiride, glipyrider, glipizide, chlorpropamide,
gliclazide, acarbose, miglitol, troglitazone,
5 pioglitazone, rosiglitazone, and/or insulin.